



# Montana Crop & Livestock Reporter

Cooperating with the Montana Department of Agriculture

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### March 1 Potato Stocks

Montana potato producers held 3.3 million cwt in storage on March 1, 2011, up 6 percent from the previous year. This number represents 90 percent of the 2010 Montana potato crop.

The 13 major potato States held 143 million cwt of potatoes in storage March 1, 2011, down 15 percent from a year ago. Potatoes in storage accounted for 41 percent of the 2010 fall storage States' production, three percentage points below March 1, 2010. Klamath Basin stocks totaled 1.80 million cwt on March 1, 2011, down 18 percent from a year ago. Klamath Basin stocks include potatoes stored in California and Klamath County, Oregon. Potato disappearance, at 208 million cwt, was 3 percent below March 1, 2010. Season-to-date shrink and loss, at 18.6 million cwt, was down 12 percent from the same date in 2010. Processors in the 9 major States have used 110 million cwt of potatoes this season, up 2 percent from the same period last year. Dehydrating usage accounted for 16.5

million cwt of the total processing, down 17 percent from last year.

### February 2011 Red Meat Production

Montana slaughter plants produced 1.0 million pounds, dressed weight, of red meat during February 2011, up 6 percent from a year ago. Cattle slaughter totaled 1,200 head, unchanged from a year ago. The average live weight of 1,204 pounds increased 54 pounds from last year.

During February, 700 hogs were slaughtered, unchanged from a year ago. The average live weight of 263 pounds was up 16 pounds from last year. February sheep slaughter in the state totaled 200 head, unchanged from February 2010. The average live weight decreased 7 pounds from last year to 114 pounds.

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.81 billion pounds in February, up 2 percent from the 3.74 billion pounds produced in February 2010.

Beef production, at 2.02 billion pounds, was 3 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.62 million head, up 3 percent from February 2010. The average live weight was up 1

pound from the previous year, at 1,286 pounds.

Veal production totaled 10.5 million pounds, 2 percent below February a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 68,800 head, down 7 percent from February 2010. The average live weight was up 17 pounds from last year, at 264 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.77 billion pounds, up 1 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 8.51 million head, down 2 percent from February 2010. The average live weight was up 7 pounds from the previous year, at 277 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 10.9 million pounds, was down 12 percent from February 2010. Sheep slaughter totaled 155,100 head, 13 percent below last year. The average live weight was 141 pounds, up 1 pound from February a year ago.

January to February 2011 commercial red meat production was 7.85 billion pounds, up 3 percent from 2010. Accumulated beef production was up 3 percent from last year, veal was down 5 percent, pork was up 3 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 12 percent.

## COMING IN THE NEXT REPORTER

Ag Prices Received  
Grain Stocks  
Prospective Plantings

Steve Anderson, Director  
Eric Sommer, Deputy Director  
Wendy Bruski, Statistical Info Assistant  
10 W 15th Street, Helena, MT 59626  
406-441-1240 or 1-800-835-2612  
[www.nass.usda.gov/mt/](http://www.nass.usda.gov/mt/) nass-mt@nass.usda.gov